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PROGRAMME PLANNING

Country and intercountry programmes and projects

EXTENSION OF THE SECOND COUNTRY PROGRAMME FOR QATAR

Note by the Administrator

1. The second country programme for Qatar was approved by the Governing Council at its thirty-fifth session (June 1988) for the period July 1988 to December 1991. The main objectives of the second country programme were: capacity-building and institutional adjustment, human resources development and economic diversification. A shortfall in available resources, mainly a result of the significant reduction in Government cost-sharing, resulted in a smaller programme than originally envisaged. The programme has nevertheless had a positive impact on both the public and private sectors in such fields as information, meteorology, industry, water resources and environment, and telecommunication and postal administration.

2. A mission of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) visited Qatar in October 1991 to review the conditions for programming UNDP assistance in accordance with Governing Council decision 91/29. The Government has confirmed its interest in continuing its cooperation with UNDP and its intention to expand technical cooperation activities.

3. The Government intends to request UNDP to organize programming missions and, once development objectives and priorities are identified, it will be possible to formulate viable technical cooperation proposals in support of the new development plan presently under preparation. It is also the intention of the Government to attain the desired level of $10 million in programme activities during the fifth cycle, in line with the provisions in paragraph 9

of Governing Council decision 91/29. It is expected that the third country programme will be submitted to the Governing Council at its session in February 1993.

4. Meanwhile, UNDP supported activities will continue as related to the objectives of the second country programme.

5. The Administrator wishes to inform the Governing Council that he has approved the extension of the second country programme for Qatar for a period of one year, beginning 1 January 1992.